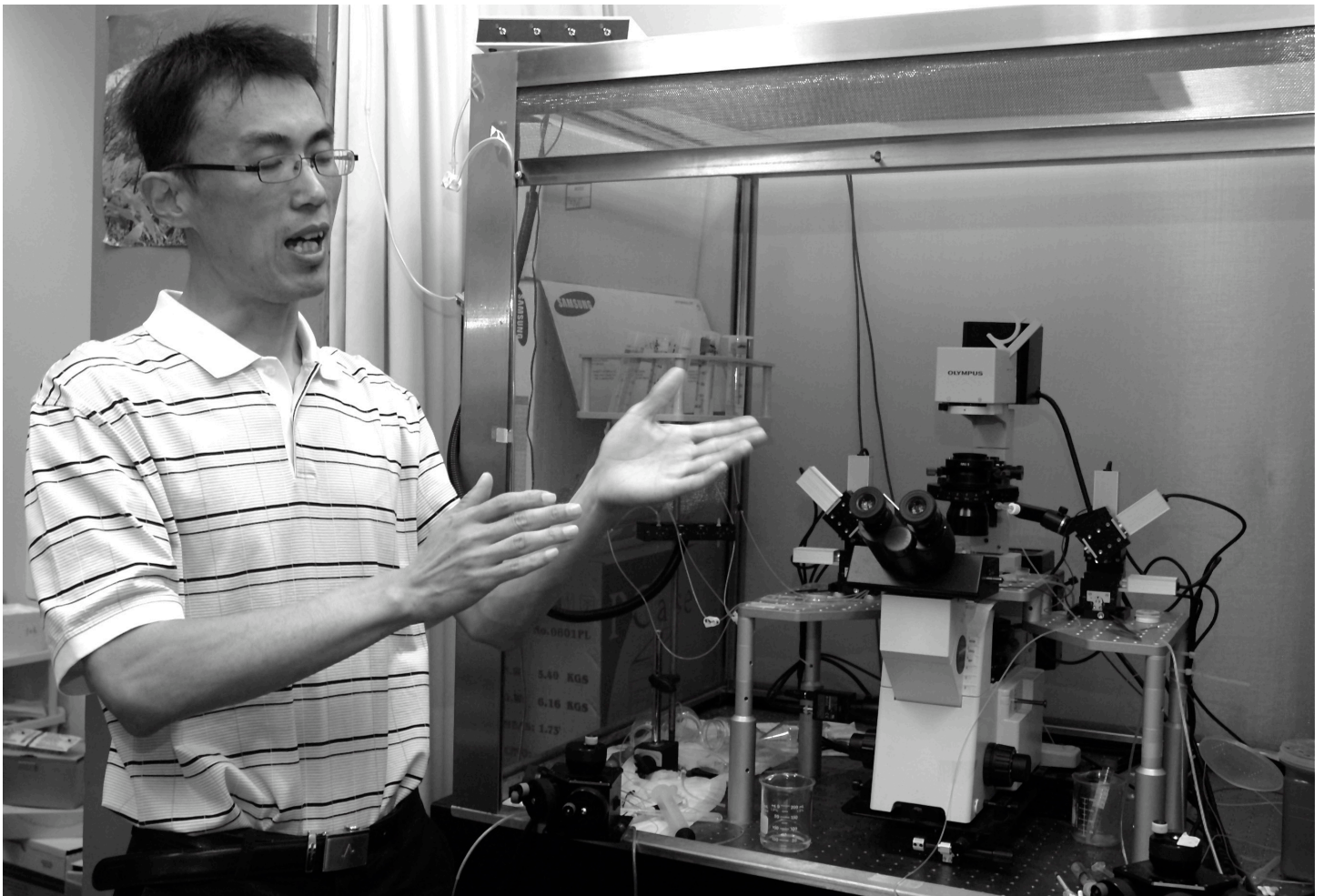




BC Epilepsy Society



2009 Annual Report 50th Anniversary

Message from the Chair and Executive Director

This past year, we continued to take tremendous strides in developing our programs, services, and resources. With the support of our many volunteers, staff, and donors we made first-time and enhanced commitments to our stakeholders and continued to solidify our financial position. We hope you'll find these results as exciting as we do.

Programs and Services

Our Partners in Teaching facilitators delivered 47 free interactive workshops to teachers, other school staff, and employers in 2009 (245 since the program was piloted in 2003) to help them learn more about seizure response and epilepsy first aid. The feedback we received will be used to improve presentations our facilitators will deliver in 2010. We continued to take the program to new parts of the province, training participants from Fernie, Creston, Golden, Elkford, Cranbrook, Kimberley, Cranbrook, and Jaffray.

Doctors Jones and Townsend, and PhD candidate Kirk Mulatz's presentations at our Speaking of Epilepsy lecture series were a great success. They covered issues as diverse as biomedical research, women with epilepsy, and anti-epileptic medications. We also hosted a successful Ask the Expert panel discussion.

By the end of 2009, we had 60 information sheets on a variety of topics. This included our new seizure journals. They're available in hard copy through our office and on our website. We continued to translate these resources into Chinese with 17 new resources.

For the sixth year in a row, we supported the cost of sending kids to the Zajac Ranch in the Fraser Valley. We also supported families to send their kids to any of the Easter Seals camps in BC. Our subsidies were made possible through a grant from the CKNW Orphans' Fund.

In collaboration with the staff of the neurology clinic at BC Children's Hospital, we hosted a third Parent Education Day that brought together families to listen to and discuss issues with medical and social services experts about a wide range of topics including school and parent partnerships, developing brains – from learning to life choices, optimal treatments, transition to adult services, and impacts on the family.

We awarded scholarships to eight BC students living with epilepsy to assist them with their university or college expenses.

Through our continuing collaboration with the Dreams Take Flight program, managed by Air Canada employees, we took five kids with epilepsy on an all-expenses paid trip to Disneyland for the third time.

We continued to invest in our resource centre by purchasing new books, magazine subscriptions, and DVDs. Our information line was available for those who weren't able to come to our office.

Research

Our first funded researcher, Dr. Veronica Schiariti, had her findings published in the January 2009 issue of *The Canadian Journal of Neurological Sciences*. Her article was titled, Period Prevalence of Epilepsy in Children in BC: A Population-Based Study. The article is available through our website.

We completed our funding of UBC-based researcher Kirk Mulatz. His two-year grant supported his study of aberrant brain activity. The Michael Smith Foundation for Health Research (MSFHR) matched our funding.

In collaboration with MSFHR, we continued funding Dr. Jun Liu's three-year post-doctoral biomedical research grant to study the role of Akt phosphorylation of GluRI subunit of AMPA receptors in the receptor trafficking and synaptic plasticity. Dr. Liu's progress will be profiled in our newsletters and on our website.

Communications

Our website has been upgraded with new or updated information sheets, 24 streaming videos, and four PowerPoint presentations. Our e-newsletter is going out to 1,568 stakeholders (a 30% increase over last year).

Our twice-yearly newsletter delivered valuable new medical, program, and service information, as well as the latest news from the Society. New topics included neuropsychology, seniors with epilepsy, and surgery: a treatment or a cure.

We collaborated on the Community Partners for Health Professional Education project with the University of British Columbia. Students from all health science fields learned directly from the experiences of people living with a variety of conditions.

We developed and launched a new public service announcement (PSA) focusing on the myths of seizure first aid. After it was launched on YouTube and our website, the PSA was accepted for broadcast by CTV, CBC, City TV, and the Shaw Multicultural Channel, and Shaw Television. We've entered the new PSA in the BC Association of Broadcasters Humanity Award competition.

We had our resources on display at the Preschool Promenade Conference; Health Care Involves Everybody: A Fair to Bridge Patient, Community, and Campus Expertise; and the Affiliation of Multicultural Societies & Service Agencies of BC (AMSSA) Diversity Health Fair.

Our staff presented at the Forefronts in Neurology conference. We were the only health organization to display to and meet with pharmaceutical company representatives and neurologists.

Finances

To show our responsibility to the public trust, we continued to follow the Ethical Fundraising and Financial Accountability Code developed by Imagine Canada.

Through cost containment, and new or improved revenue streams, the Society was able to continue to grow its cash reserve to an appropriate level. This provides great financial stability for the upcoming years. 2009 was the Society's eighth consecutive year of revenue growth.

Governance

We were privileged to have the Honourable Steven Point, Lieutenant Governor of the province of British Columbia, continue his term as our Patron.

We completed the first year of our new strategic plan. We published a strategic report card on our website that assessed our performance in 2009 and described what we need to do in 2010 to improve.

Our Professional Advisory Committee (PAC), a volunteer team of professional experts, met regularly to review and upgrade our resources, programs, and services.

We extend our most sincere appreciation to both Gavin McLeod and Mike Rowlands who completed their service to the Society's Board of Directors.

Our membership elected Carmen Ekelund as a new Board member to fill a vacancy at our AGM.

Our membership base grew by 55% over last year and by 824% over the past six years. This was our sixth consecutive year of double-digit growth.

Fund Development

The Gaming Policy and Enforcement Branch of the BC government continued their financial support of our programs, resources, and services through their current three-year commitment. We also completed a successful gaming compliance review conducted by a government auditor.

Many funders supported our programs, services, and resources throughout 2009. We received gifts of \$5,000 or more from the RBC Foundation (fifth grant in six years), the FK Morrow Foundation (third grant in five years), Variety – The Children's Charity (\$20,000 – largest grant ever from them), the Glaxo SmithKline Foundation (second year in a row), and the Li Ka Shing (Canada) Foundation (\$20,000 – first-time grant).

Once again, we were the beneficiary of donated printing services through the generosity of Vibrant Graphics, as well as the video development services of iomedia productions.

We hosted a fund raising and awareness 5K walk as part of the annual Shaughnessy road race in Vancouver.

Throughout 2009, anyone who wanted to donate Shoppers Drug Mart Optimum Points to our Society could do so through their website at www.shoppers-drugmart.ca/donate. This will continue in 2010.

We updated our planned giving materials for anyone who wanted to consider our Society in their Will. These materials are available on our website. Donors can contact the Executive Director to discuss their plans.

In Appreciation

We'd like to express our appreciation to our Board of Directors and Committee members who contributed many hours to the governance, programs, and services of the Society.

Many thanks also go to our staff, Elvira Balakshin and Kathryn Sykes, who worked so hard to help the Society achieve all its successes throughout 2009.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Professional Advisory

Committee Chair

Craig Pamplin, PhD, CFA

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Carmen Ekelund

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Rob Kraft

Director

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The Honourable

Steven Point

Lieutenant Governor of

British Columbia

STAFF

Shawn Laari, CAE, CFRM

Executive Director

Elvira Balakshin

Program & Communications

Coordinator

Kathryn Sykes, RSW

Community Development

Coordinator

Janice Bulger

Bookkeeper

OFFICE

999 West Broadway

Suite 510

Vancouver, BC

Canada

V5Z 1K5

Tel: 604-875-6704

Fax: 604-875-0617

info@bcepilepsy.com

www.bcepilepsy.com

**CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
AND STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2009**

	2009	2008
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION		
Assets	\$499,644	\$489,160
Liabilities	(10,975)	(9,430)
Net assets	<u>\$488,669</u>	<u>\$479,730</u>
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS		
REVENUES		
Gaming	\$98,600	\$98,600
Program grants	37,400	21,535
Donations and in memoriams	51,980	70,610
Endowment fund	15,769	29,317
Telemarketing campaign	112,928	86,062
United Way	4,184	3,677
Membership	3,193	3,885
Other revenue	7,294	15,054
Total revenues	<u>331,348</u>	<u>328,740</u>
EXPENDITURES		
Programs and services		
Partners in Teaching	102,196	104,819
Women in Mind	17,573	17,916
Speaking of Epilepsy	11,628	11,689
Scholarships	7,000	9,000
Newsletter	1,100	1,243
PSA development	31	—
Other programs	36,080	38,036
Research	11,333	16,750
Total programs and services	<u>186,941</u>	<u>199,453</u>
Fund raising	78,903	57,964
Administration	<u>56,565</u>	<u>51,012</u>
Total expenditures	<u>322,409</u>	<u>308,429</u>
Excess of revenues over expenditures	<u>\$8,939</u>	<u>\$20,311</u>

Complete financial statements are available upon request.

Auditor: Johannesson & Company Chartered Accountants

Charity Registration Number: 11881 8541 RR0001

British Columbia Society Number: 5749

The cover photo of post-doctoral research grant recipient Dr. Jun Liu was taken at the Brain Research Centre at the University of British Columbia.